

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 FRB-02 H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-20 STR-08

TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 OMB-01 AF-10

ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 DRC-01 /240 W

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R 041636Z JAN 74

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3226

INFO USUN NEWYORK 9933

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: GATT, UNDP, UNCTAD

SUBJ: GATT COMMERCIAL POLICY COURSE

SUMMARY: GATT SECRETARIAT IS CONCERNED RE ANTICIPATED PROPOSAL TO REVISE ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR UNDP-FINANCED COMMERCIAL POLICY COURSE, WHICH THEY THINK WOULD RESULT IN DETERIORATION OF COURSE. END SUMMARY.

1. GATT DIRECTOR GENERAL'S ASSISTANT HARRY REED CALLED MISSION ECMIN YESTERDAY TO EXPRESS CONCERN AS SUMMARIZED ABOUVE.

2. COURSE IS NOW GIVEN TWICE A YEAR FOR LDC OFFICIALS, OPERATED BY GATT, BUT FINANCED BY UNDP FROM REGIONAL PROGRAM FUNDS WITH UNCTAD AS EXECUTING AGENCY. UNDER PRESENT PROCEDURE, WHICH REED DESCRIBED AS HIGHLY SATISFACTORY, GOVERNMENTS NOMINATE CANDIDATES AND GATT SECRETARIAT SELECTS THUS MINIMIZING LIKELIHOOD OF UNQUALIFIED NOMINEES. SECRETARIAT CONSIDERS RIGHT AND ABILITY TO SELECT

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FUNDAMENTAL TO EFFECTIVE PROGRAM.

3. GATT SECRETARIAT HAS IMPRESSION UNDP MAY PROPOSE TO CHANGE FUNDING FROM REGIONAL TO COUNTRY PROGRAMS AND THAT THIS WOULD MAKE IT DIFFICULT FOR GATT TO TURN DOWN POORLY QUALIFIED CANDIDATES WHICH COUNTRIES MAY PROPOSE. THEY ALSO HAVE HEARD SUGGESTION THAT SPECIAL FUND FOR LEAST DEVELOPED SHOULD BE TAPPED, BUT CONSIDER THIS UNREALISTIC SINCE THERE ARE ALMOST NO LEAST DEVELOPED OFFICIALS WHO COULD BENEFIT FROM COURSE. THEY ASSUME MOTIVATION IS PRESSURE TO CUT BACK REGIONAL PROGRAMS.

4. SECRETARIAT IS ANXIOUS TO CONTINUE PRESENT SATISFACTORY ARRANGEMENTS WITHOUT CHANGE. REED SAID THEY THINK ABOVE PROPOSALS WOULD RESULT IN UNFORTUNATE DETERIORATION OF COURSE. THEY UNDERSTAND UNDP COUNCIL IS TO MEET IN NEW YORK JANUARY 14 AND SUGGEST THIS WOULD BE OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT IF U.SM OR OTHERS SHOULD WISH TO DO SO.

5. COMMENT: MISSION IS INCLINED TO SHARE SECRETARIAT VIEWS. OUR IMPRESSION IS THAT COURSE IS WORTHWHILE AND WELL REGARDED, AND LOSS OF SELECTIVITY AMONG CANDIDATES COULD MAKE IT LESS EFFECTIVE. MISSION IS NOT IN POSITION TO APPRAISE NEED TO REDUCE REGIONAL FUNDINGS OR COMPETITIVE REQUIREMENTS.BASSIN

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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30 JUN 2005

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Subject: GATT COMMERCIAL POLICY COURSE SUMMARY: GATT SECRETARIAT IS CONCERNED RE ANTICIPATED
TAGS: ETRD, GATT, UNDP, UNCTAD
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005